



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Intramuros, Manila

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
ON THE LIQUOR BAN IN
CONNECTION WITH THE
MAY 12, 2025 NATIONAL AND
LOCAL ELECTIONS.**

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GARCIA, George Erwin M.,	Chairman
INTING, Socorro B.,	Commissioner
CASQUEJO, Marlon S.,	Commissioner
FEROLINO, Aimee P.,	Commissioner
BULAY, Rey E.,	Commissioner
MACEDA, JR., Ernesto Ferdinand P.,	Commissioner
CELIS, Nelson J.,	Commissioner

Promulgated: September 13, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 11057

WHEREAS, Section 261 (dd)(1) of the Omnibus Election Code (OEC) prohibits any person to sell, furnish, offer, buy, serve or take intoxicating liquor on the days fixed by law for the registration of voters in the polling place, or on the day before the election or on election day, subject to certain exception as provided.

WHEREAS, violation of said prohibited acts shall be punishable with imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than six (6) years and shall not be subject to probation, and in addition, the guilty party shall suffer disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission on Elections (Commission), pursuant to the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the OEC, and other election laws, **RESOLVES**, as it hereby **RESOLVED**, to promulgate the following implementing rules:

SECTION 1. Prohibited Acts. - It shall be unlawful for any person, including owners and managers of hotels, resorts, restaurants, and other establishments of the same nature, to sell, furnish, offer, buy, serve, or take intoxicating liquor anywhere in the Philippines.

SECTION 2. Period of Prohibition. - The liquor ban shall be in force and effect on the day before the election (May 11, 2025) and on Election Day (May 12, 2025).

SECTION 3. Exemption. - Hotels, resorts, restaurants, and other establishments of the same nature duly certified by the Department of Tourism (DOT) as tourist-oriented and habitually in the business of catering to foreign tourists may be exempted from the liquor ban, **PROVIDED**, they secure prior written authority from the officers enumerated in Section 4 hereof, upon showing that there are justifiable reasons therefor.

Only foreign tourists taking intoxicating liquor in said authorized establishments are exempted from the prohibition.

SECTION 4. Where and When to Apply and Secure for Exemption. - Applications for exemption together with supporting documents, shall be filed with, and duly acted upon by the following:

- a) **Regional Election Director (RED) of the National Capital Region (NCR)**, in cases of hotels, resorts, restaurants, and other establishments of the same nature located in the NCR;
- b) **Provincial Election Supervisor (PES)** with respect to establishments located in the municipalities within their respective provinces; and
- c) **City Election Officer (EO)** with respect to those located within their respective cities or districts.

The deadline for submission of applications for exemption shall be on **05 May 2025**. All applications for exemption shall be filed from Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding holidays. Requests submitted after 5:00 pm shall be considered filed at 8:00 am of the next working day.

The Application for Exemption is attached as **Annex "A"**.

SECTION 5. Requirements for the Grant of Exemption. - Exemption may be granted only upon compliance and submission of the following:

- a) An application for exemption which must be **under oath** and must contain a statement that the operator or owner of the hotel, resort, restaurant, or other establishment of the same nature has not been convicted of an election offense;
- b) A certification by the DOT stating that the requesting hotel, resort, restaurant, or other establishment of the same nature is:
 - i. tourist-oriented; **and**
 - ii. habitually in the business of catering to foreign tourists.

- c) Business Permit issued by the local government unit where the establishment is located which must be valid and existing at the time of application until the end of liquor ban.
- d) Tax Clearance Certificate issued by the Bureau of Internal Revenue which must be valid and existing at the time of application until the end of liquor ban.

Non-existent or unjustifiable reason for exemption, misrepresentation in the application, or submission of falsified documents shall cause the denial of the request for exemption.

SECTION 6. *Revocation of Exemption.* - The exemption granted may be revoked by the Commission *motu proprio* or upon verified petition filed by any person on any the following grounds, subject to notice and opportunity to present documentary evidence by the party whom the exemption was granted:

- a) the reason for which the exemption was granted does not exist or is not justifiable; or
- b) the requesting party or applicant has committed misrepresentation in the application, or introduced or submitted falsified documents; or
- c) any of the conditions for the grant of the exemption was violated.

SECTION 7. *When Request for Exemption is Not Necessary.* - Application for exemption shall not be necessary in cases of bulk movement from one warehouse to another or to retail outlets, of which sale and/or payment had already been consummated before the liquor ban; Provided that no furnishing, offering, serving, taking or selling of liquor products for consumption shall be done during the liquor ban.

SECTION 8. *Duty to Report.* - Within ten (10) days from Election Day, the approving COMELEC official (i.e. RED, PES, EO) shall submit to the Office of the Deputy Director for Operations the list of establishments which were granted exemption from the liquor ban.

SECTION 9. *Who shall Implement.* - The Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), REDs, PESs, EOs and the COMELEC Election Law Enforcement Team, if any, which will be assigned by the Commission in specific areas, shall implement this Resolution.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. - This Resolution shall take effect on the seventh (7th) day after its publication in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SECTION 11. Publication and Dissemination. - The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this Resolution in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation and shall furnish copies thereof to the DOT, Association of Hotels and Restaurants, REDs, PESs, EOs, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the PNP, the NBI and the Accredited Citizens Arms of the Commission.

SO ORDERED.

GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA
Chairman

SOCORRO B. INTING
Commissioner

MARLON S. CASQUEJO
Commissioner

AIMEE P. FEROLINO
Commissioner

REY E. BULAY
Commissioner

ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR.
Commissioner

NELSON J. CELIS
Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED for publication, September 13, 2024.


CONSUELO B. DIOLA
Director IV

Office of the Commission Secretary

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)85272987; email address comsec@comelec.gov.ph.

